

Abstract

An Innovation Information Management data tracking object model and interface which captures and stores product ideas, requirements, constraints, design alternatives and functions, along with their associated relationships, in an object model database is presented. Each object model includes information and relationships that are accessible via a publicly defined interface. In one embodiment, when an object model is saved to the object model database, the information objects making up the Innovation Information Management object model, along with their relationships to other objects, are saved in separate relational database files. Because the different innovation information is separated and stored in a tool neutral persistent form, any application can access the information contained in those objects.